Increase in Poverty

†1224. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new economic policies and rapid globalization have affected the rural areas and as a result poverty has increased further;

(b) if so, the detailf thereof;

(c) whether it has directly affected the rural industries; and

(d) whether due to this the percentage of poverty has increased in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) Since the latest reliable estimates of poverty are available only for the year 1993-94 based on large Sample of the 50th Round of the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure, it is not possible to realistically assess the impact of the new economic policies and rapid globalization on poverty situation However, there is no conclusive evidence to suggest that the new economic policies and rapid globalization have contributed to increase in rural poverty.

(c) and (d) There is no evidence to suggest that rural industries have been adversely affected by the new economic policies.

Special funds for construction of roads in Bihar

†1225. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provide any Central funds to the State Government for the centrally sponsored schemes in pursuance of the recommendations of Ramanathan Committee

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide any special Central funds, for construction of roads in terrorism infected areas of the central Bihar;

(c) if so, by when; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.